## **Definitions**

Messuage a dwelling house with outbuildings and land assigned to its use.

Leasow rough pasture land.

Mark valued at  $\frac{2}{3}$  of a pound and equal to 13s. 4d. In England it was never issued as a coin but

was used in accounting for rents, taxes etc.

Copyhold was a type of tenancy, where land was leased from the manor in exchange for a set of

responsibilities. The term was used widely in England until the 19th century. The copy

holder was the one who 'held a copy' of this lease.

Demise convey or grant(an estate) by will or lease. Hereditaments any item of property that can be inherited. Covenants agree by lease, deed or other legal contract.

Tenement a piece of land held by an owner.

Husbandman a man who cultivates the land, a farmer.

Succession Duty a tax imposed on every succession to property, according to its value and relation of the

person who succeeds to the previous owner.

## **Units of Area of Land Measurement**

Perch when used for an area it should more accurately be called a square perch. It is equal to a

square with each side one perch long and equals 30<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> square yards

Rood or confusingly 'rod', used in the Middle Ages, and is equal to 40 square perches or one

quarter of an acre.

Acre is the physical area of land that a single oxen could plough in one day. Equal to 160 square

perches or 4840 square yards. On tithe maps land area were given in A.R.P. that is acres,

roods and perches.

Oxgang or Bovate was the area of land that a single oxen could till in an annual ploughing season.

Around 20 acres.

Noke a quarter of a virgate or about 10 acres

Virgate or Yardland was the area that two oxen could till in an annual ploughing season. Around 40

acres.

Hide is the area of mixed farmland that could support a household. Usually about 160 acres but

it could be between 90 and 240 acres depending on how fertile the land was.

Knights Fee a unit of land deemed sufficient to support a knight. An uncertain measure of land but said

by some sources to be about 600 acres.